

As you can see from these examples, not only are the provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund aimed at helping support federal projects, they also help much needed state and local programs.

That is why I support CARA and invite all of my colleagues—regardless of which side of the aisle they sit—to participate in this legislative effort.

As I conclude, I'm reminded of John Chafee who loved to quote Teddy Roosevelt's observation that "of all the great questions which can come before this nation, short of the actual preservation of its existence in a great war, there is none which compares in importance with the central task of leaving this land even a better land for our descendants than it is for us."

Thank you for supporting this bill.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST).

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Chairman, we just heard some eloquent remarks about small little jewels being preserved and not being able to wait a few more years for lack of funding because of the advancing concrete. If we could picture in our mind the East Coast of the United States and then picture from Boston to Richmond. It is almost a constant corridor of buildings and highways, a megalopolis. And in the midst of that constant corridor is a tiny little space viewed from space that is still dark.

It is called the Delmarva Peninsula, made up of Maryland, Delaware and Virginia. What we have done is worked with the three States on that tiny little peninsula to retain its rural character by creating a Habitat Conservation Corridor for those three States on the peninsula for wildlife. We are working to produce and preserve and make profitable agriculture. And we are going to restore 10 percent of the original historic number of oysters in the Chesapeake Bay, which will do tremendous things for water quality.

Mr. Chairman, I urge a "no" vote on this amendment for those jewels in this country that still can be preserved.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chairman, I want to reiterate what I am talking about with this amendment is for maintenance. It is not for acquisition at all. It is for maintenance. We already have the Grand Canyon. We already have Yosemite. We already have Rainier National Park. They are already in place. We are talking about maintaining these facilities.

Now, I commend the gentleman from Alaska for at least putting some maintenance dollars in this bill. But here is the problem. We know we have about \$18 billion of a backlog. We have about \$180 million in this bill. If we were to appropriate that all of the way through

this year, it would take us 100 years just to make up the current backlog. We cannot wait that long. We propose in this CARA bill to spend another, roughly, billion dollars for acquisition. We would add to that, obviously, the maintenance needs in the future.

Mr. Chairman, we cannot wait that long. We have 100 years, for goodness sakes, just to take care of what we have. That does not make any sense at all. We have an opportunity because CARA develops a funding stream for these crown jewels that we are talking about. Some of that ought to go for maintenance. And that is all this amendment says.

Obviously, if this money is put into the process, maybe we can reduce this and then those that support buying more land would have that land in the future. But is the first principle not to maintain what we have? That is what this amendment does, is simply says let us maintain what we have. We cannot wait 100 years just to take care of the backlog that we already have right now.

I urge my colleagues to support this common sense amendment because to me, it addresses the issue that the American people understand obviously better than we do, or it would be in the bill without having to go through this amendment process.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I am one who supports the maintenance. I will say this, that if the appropriators had done their job, the maintenance would have occurred and should have occurred.

I am a little bit concerned and I would like to ask those that oppose this bill, where would the maintenance money be for this program if we did not have CARA? Where would it be? It would not happen. There would be no maintenance. It would be the same minimal type maintenance that has existed the last 6 years, and before that in the other administration.

And if we go back and check the units that were created, we will find out a large percent of those units were created without authorization by this Congress, but through the appropriating committee.

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Just check the record.

So I ask a lot of my colleagues, where would they be when they offer these amendments. If we did not have CARA, would they have any more maintenance? I say, no, they would have the same old thing. Just keep that in mind.

So I think this amendment is unnecessary. We do recognize the need in this bill. I respectfully reject the amendment. Keep this package together. Let us go forward and accomplish what we set out to do: maintain, take care of our species, take care of

our urban parks, take care of our easements, take care of destroyed land, and, yes, maybe buy some land. But nowhere in this bill says there shall be land bought. Nowhere.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). All time has expired.

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS).

The question was taken; and the Chairman pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 497, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS) will be postponed.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington) having assumed the chair, Mr. PEASE, Chairman pro tempore of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 701) to provide Outer Continental Shelf Impact Assistance to State and local governments, to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978, and the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson Act) to establish a fund to meet the outdoor conservation and recreation needs of the American people, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 853, COMPREHENSIVE BUDGET PROCESS REFORM ACT OF 1999

Mr. DREIER, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-613) on the resolution (H. Res. 499) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 853) to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to provide for joint resolutions on the budget, reserve funds for emergency spending, strengthened enforcement of budgetary decisions, increased accountability for Federal spending, accrual budgeting for Federal insurance programs, mitigation of the bias in the budget process toward higher spending, modifications in paygo requirements when there is an on-budget surplus, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

CONSERVATION AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 497 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in